



Docket No. 1232-4570

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Kenji Morita and Tomoaki Kawai  
Serial No. : 09/401,400 Group Art Unit : 2612 ✓  
Filed : September 22, 1999 Examiner: Jason T. Whipkey  
For : SERIAL SCANNER APPARATUS, BI-DIRECTIONAL ERROR  
CORRECTION METHOD THEREFOR, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

An *Ex Parte Quayle Action* was issued in this case on May 6, 2004. Applicants have concurrently filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). This Preliminary Amendment is being filed in support of the RCE.

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper;

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 8 of this paper;

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 17 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes;

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 18 of this paper; and

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figure is attached following page 20 of this paper.